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ATTACKS ON THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Peking People's Daily for July 16 gives considerable space to the problem of the Roman Catholic Church, especially in connection with the Shanghai arrests on June 15. It reports that Fathers Alain De Terwangne and Clement Renirkens (both Belgian) and eight accomplices were arrested there on March 25 on charges of imperialist spying. Then on June 15 thirteen more were arrested, including Americans Charles Joseph McCarthy (principal of Jesuit Theological Seminary), Thomas Leonard Philips (priest in Church of Christ the King) and Joseph Patrick McCormack (head of Maryknoll Mission in Shanghai). A public trial of these thirteen, with an estimated 10,000 people present, was held in Zikawei on June 22. An Exhibit of the "Evidences of the Crime of Imperialism in Using the Catholic Church for Wrecking Activities" was set up in Zikawei, and by June 25 over 50,000 people had visited it. On June 25 the Shanghai Consultative Council gave a good deal of time to a report of the case. Mayor Chen Yi reiterated the government position - freedom of religious belief, but stern punishment for those who used religion for imperialistic acts. He urged Catholics to "resolutely awake, free themselves from the grip of imperialist elements and join the anti-imperialist and patriotic movement as patriotic church members".

An editorial in the same paper speaks of a whole series of actions against Catholics. "In the short span of a few years, our people's public security organs have broken the Catholic espionage cases in Hingtai, Tsitsihar, Hsienhsien and Mukden, the espionage case of American Catholic Bishop Francis Ford in Meih sien of Kwangtung, the case of counter-revolutionary activity of Mu Yu-tsai, American priest of the Jesuit Mission in Nanking, the case of counter-revolutionary activity of Su Liang, American priest of the Catholic Church at Huangshih, the case of American priest Wu Ming-teh of the Catholic Church at Chenhsi who colluded with bandits and concealed narcotics, the espionage case of American Catholic Justin Garvey in Yuanling, the counter-revolutionary case of French Catholic Bishop Jean de Vienne in Tientsin, and the espionage case of Italian priest Martine in Peking."

A number of references indicate that the "Catholic Youth Patriotic Corps" is now the special object of attack. Nothing is said of the Legion of Mary, which is probably already pretty well liquidated.

The steady stream of priests and nuns arriving in Hong Kong throughout July and August indicates that the Catholic Church is under attack all over China. It is however worthy of note that an August 27 arrival in Hong Kong from Shanghai reported that American Bishop James E. Walsh has not been molested, and is still carrying on his work in Shanghai. Your editor had a long talk with Bishop Walsh in the spring of 1950, and the question of the possible evacuation of missionaries was raised. Bishop Walsh said simply, "We Catholics do not evacuate. It is our tradition to stay." His own course of action is a noble example of his words.

THE CHRISTIAN BOOKMAN

The Christian Bookman for June, published by the Council on Christian Literature for Overseas, issued about 20 times a year to keep mission boards and missionaries informed on Christian work in China. Annual Rates: Domestic \$2.00; Overseas first class \$3.00; Airmail \$5.00 in fifteen cent zone, \$7.00 in twenty-five cent zone. Please send payments as due.

seas Chinese in Hong Kong, reported that up to May 148 titles had been published by the Council. The average production rate now is 11 titles a month. The Council's new Executive Officer, Rev. H.W. Spillett, will arrive from England in September.

Among the publications advertised is Lu Chen-chung's New Testament. This translation, originally based on the Souter Greek Testament, was put out in a tentative edition at Yenching in 1945, distributed to various scholars for comments. The present edition is a revision based on comments received, and also on Nestle's 17th edition of the Greek Testament. In accuracy of translation this is a considerable improvement over the standard Kuoyu Version, especially in the Pauline epistles, but the first edition was not in as good idiomatic Chinese style as the Kuoyu Version.

Other books put out by the Council include reprints of Fosdick's Guide to Understanding the Bible, Knox's Knowing the Bible, Temple's Readings in St. John's Gospel, and the complete set of Expository Commentaries on Old and New Testament. The Sheng Kung Hui advertises their edition of the Apocrypha and of the Prayer Book (Kiangsu Diocese Version). The Lutheran Missions Literature Society has, among other titles, a Life of Martin Luther, Martyrs of the Early Christian Church, Qualben's History of the Christian Church in two vols., Nygren's Agape and Eros, and Brillioth's Eucharistic Faith and Practice.

THE DAY OF THE FALSE DRAGON

The Day of the False Dragon (Westminster Press, \$2.50) is a novel by Alice M. Huggins, an American Board missionary of long experience in a girls' school in North China. She spent three years under the People's Government, with four months of house arrest, coming out at the end of March 1952.

The book is a simple, straightforward, revealing tale told with dramatic power. The repressive effect of Communism on the lives of the girls and the school cannot prevent the triumph of Christian faith and the spirit of forgiveness in one of the teachers. A beautiful love story relieves the tragic happenings of those days. You will be moved and inspired by this book. RMC

THE VERMILION GATE

No one will call Lin Yu-tang's new book, The Vermilion Gate (John Day, 439pp., \$4.50) a great book. A novel of the Northwest in the early 30's, it is like his earlier stories - long, melodramatic, rather rambling, inconclusive, with a woman as the chief heroine and several subsidiary female characters. The heroine epitomizes most of the womanly virtues praised in Chinese literature, particularly faithfulness to the one to whom her troth has been plighted, and the other leading women are also paragons of virtue. All the characters are rather stereotyped, and portrayed without any deep insight into human nature. The form is generally a combination of Chinese and western historical novels, with some attempt to fit the story into the clashes between Chinese and Moslems in that period, though this aim is not very clearly or convincingly accomplished.

At the same time, there is considerable interest in the book for anyone who lived in China during that period, and the description of conditions and customs is rather well done. The most effective point made, it seems to this reader, is the helplessness of the individual in the face of the callous and absolute power of the military. For anyone who knows China and is interested in it, the reading of this book will provide some hours of pleasant and easy reading that will bring back many memories. WCM

MISSIONARY NEWS

Mr. Arthur Mathews and Dr. Rupert M. Clarke, the last of the CIM missionaries in China, arrived in Hong Kong on July 20. This mission had in China at the end of 1950, 637 missionaries; end of 1951, 33 missionaries; and at the end of 1952, 8 missionaries; all under house arrest. The heavy travel bills became a problem after it became impossible to send in funds from abroad, but fortunately the authorities in Shanghai bought and paid for CIM equipment there, and also paid rent in advance on the Shanghai headquarters "the only property in China... for which we still hold the title deeds." All their property in the interior has been confiscated.

Rodney A. Sundberg, formerly with the Evangelical Mission in Hunan, is now field secretary for the Congregational, Presbyterian and Evangelical United Brethren missions in the Philippines.

Rev. and Mrs. Sam Moffett (formerly Presbyterian, Nanking), were to have sailed in August for Korea, but this has been prevented by the ill health of Mrs. Moffett. They will live at Princeton, where Sam will teach Missions in the Seminary, as well as work for the Mission Board in the Philadelphia Presbytery.

Mgr. Dominic Desperben, RC Bishop of Hainan, arrived in Hong Kong on August 7. Two Italian priests arrived from Honan on August 5. They reported that Bishop Dissot, three Italian priests and four Italian brothers are still in Chengchow. One Chinese sister is in jail for having promoted the Legion of Mary. There are still seven foreign priests and one foreign brother in Kaifeng. Two Marist brothers arriving in Hong Kong reported that the last school run by Europeans in Shanghai has been closed down, the St. Jeanne d'Arc School. Three other Marist brothers of that school are still in Shanghai.

RC Archbishop Theodor Buddenbrock from Lanchow was given a Distinguished Service Cross by West Germany on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

Paul Lindholm (formerly Pres. USA, Soochow) was one of the speakers at the first spiritual life retreat ever held for US Airforce chaplains, at Baguio, in July.

Clarence Tucker Craig, Dean of Drew Theological Seminary, died of cancer on August 20. In 1916 he taught for one year in the Anglo-Chinese College, Foochow. He has of recent years been an active member of the Board of Founders of Nanking Theological Seminary.

CHURCH NEWS

A revision of the Mongolian New Testament has just been published in Hong Kong by the British and Foreign Bible Society. The previous version was published in 1846. Missionaries Noel Eriksson, Gerda Ollen and Stuart Gunzel, and a Mongolian Daste Djub have been at work on this revision since 1935.

The English service Endeavourers' group in Shanghai have been notified that they must give up their Chapel on Bubbling Well Road. They still have a church on Range Road, which is used by a Chinese congregation on Sunday mornings.

Arrangements are being made in Shanghai for a Union Christian Bookstore. By the end of July the Christian Literature Society, the Association Press, the Baptist bookstore and the China Sunday School Union had decided to join. The Bible Society had not yet decided. Those registered as foreign bookstores, as the Christian Book Room, are not permitted to join.

Seventeen students graduated this summer from Pastor Chia Yu-ming's Bible classes. Some are preparing to go to far parts of the country, and almost all of them are engaged in Christian work.

A three day conference for Christian students was held in Shanghai in August.

Wang Ming-tao continues to preach in Peking. In July he had two weeks of special meetings.

A letter from China states that Christian work is going on well in Kashing and Haichow, and also in the adjacent country districts.

Active Christian work is being carried on among the native tribes in the mountains of Yunnan.

Chen Yi-sheng, prominent Christian layman of Shanghai, died of cancer on August 3. He had been active in YMCA work. He had been a member of the PPCC National Committee, and of other responsible organizations under the Communist Government.

SCHOOL NEWS

A United Press correspondent in Singapore interviewed on August 7 one of the many Chinese